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people homeless. \$10

Order items by sending payment to
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We spoke to a gathering at the Law School of
the University in Barcelona, and that night
presented before a large group of young people at a
social center. Each one of these events was followed
by a question and answer session where we were
questioned by the audience and got the opportunity
to put out even more information by answering
questions. Also, our book "25 years On The Move"
has been translated into French, Italian and Spanish.

As a result of this trip, literature about MOVE is
being translated into French, Italian and Spanish,
and our list of overseas supporters is growing.

On Saturday, Nov. 15, Fred and I traveled from
Barcelona, Spain back to Paris, France, the final leg
of our trip. On Sunday, we attended a program in
Bobigny, France which was organized by the largest
trade union in Paris in support of Mumia Abu-
Jamal. On Nov. 17, we spent time with a young
activist that wanted information from MOVE for a
website and to spread through-out France. We
returned to the states Tuesday, Nov. 18. ° ° °

CONTACT US AND GET INVOLVED!

The MOVE Organization
P.O. Box 19709
Philadelphia, PA 19143
phone (610) 499-0979
onamovellja@aol.com
www.moveorg.net

**International Concerned Family
and Friends
of Mumia Abu-Jamal**
P.O. Box 19709
Philadelphia, PA 19143
phone (215) 476-8812
icffmaj@aol.com
www.mumia.org

For questions regarding this newsletter, please
contact uprising1978@aol.com. If you do not
have internet access, we are constantly in touch
with MOVE, and if you contact the MOVE
organization above, they will be able to reach us.

ON THE MOVE

a newsletter for friends and supporters of MOVE

THE MOVE 9 AND NELSON MANDELA

by the MOVE 9 Women

TO QUOTE JOHN AFRICA, "WHEN A PERSON
SEND INNOCENT PEOPLE TO PRISON, THOSE WHO
THINK THIS VIOLATION STOP WITH THE VICTIM ARE
AS MUCH A PRISONER OF THE TYRANT AS THOSE
BEHIND THE PRISON WALL, WHEN AN INNOCENT
PERSON IS SENT TO PRISON LIKE GUILTY THE
PRINCIPLE OF INNOCENCE IS UNDER ATTACK AND
THE INNOCENCE OF ALL THE INNOCENT IS
ASSAULTED, AN INNOCENT EXAMPLE IS A FREE
EXAMPLE, THOSE WHO ARE SILENT ABOUT THE
CONDITION OF THE INNOCENT IS SILENT ABOUT THE
POSITION OF FREEDOM, WHEN INNOCENCE IS
JAILED IT AIN'T JUST JOHN BROWN THAT IS JAILED,
FREEDOM IS JAILED BECAUSE FREEDOM DOES NOT
STOP WITH JOHN BROWN NO MORE THAN
INNOCENCE STOPS WITH JOHN BROWN'S MOTHER."
LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA. THE COORDINATOR OF
THE MOVE ORGANIZATION.

ON THE MOVE! One of the biggest stories of 1990 was
the release of Nelson Mandela. The political prisoner held in
South African prison for 27 years. What is so striking to
MOVE people about the release of Nelson Mandela is that the
apartheid government of South Africa was seen as, one of the
most racist, brutal, unjust regimes of our time; and this
government is hailed as one of the most liberal, just, freedom-
oriented governments in existence, yet apartheid officials
released Nelson Mandela unconditionally while U.S. officials
still have innocent MOVE people in prison when they know
we're innocent. The fact is, the apartheid government of South
Africa was racist, unjust. But the U.S. government is just as
racist, brutal, unjust. South African officials beat, jailed,
murdered Black South Africans for fighting for freedom and

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**MOVE
WEBSITE**
WWW.ONAMOVE.ORG

OnaMOVE!

MOVE Newsletter Intro

The history of the MOVE Organization is one that few know much about. Some may know of the bomb dropped on civilians in Philadelphia, but the reasons for why it happened are glossed over.

Little is known of MOVE's belief in LIFE and how their uncompromising commitment to it led the city and federal government to go to any lengths to silence them. People are horrified when they hear the details of the May 13, 1985 massacre and how no official was ever held responsible.

Even fewer know that the MOVE 9 are still in prison from the 1978 siege - 25 YEARS LATER, and that Mumia Abu-Jamal has been on death row since 1981, despite evidence that proves undeniable innocence.

It is February, 2004 and we have come upon another black history month, a time when school children are force fed half truths about black history and white america will pretend to give a damn about black people. Hollow, insincere statements will be made by politicians about the Hon. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement, while they continue to perpetuate the same bigotry that caused the need for that movement to exist. Sellout black politicians will act like they are really down with what Martin and Malcolm were talking about while ignoring the problems of today.

All of this talk of black history and not a word will be mentioned of MOVE; a primarily black organization founded by a wise black man named **JOHN AFRICA**. People will not be told of the history of persecution against MOVE.

People will be taught the safe versions of MLK's teachings, but the fact that he eventually confronted this government head on will be omitted from history. Why? Because these problems have not ceased. They are only masked with PC words and new programs, but these injustices are now more insidious than ever.

They will put Malcolm X on a stamp because assassination took his threat away, but MOVE still flourishes, getting stronger, their bond growing closer every time this system attacks. Open your eyes to true history, to a belief that the government tried and failed to burn up in a holocaust at 62nd and Osage. Truly honor our freedom fighters—read on and get ON THE MOVE!

THE EXAMPLE OF

by Kevin Price

TO QUOTE **JOHN AFRICA**, "REMEMBER, THE FIGHT THE MOVE ORGANIZATION IS WAGING IN THE COURTS AND PRISONS IS FOR YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS TOO, THE DRUGS, THE BEATINGS, THE HOMOSEXUAL RAPE OF MEN AND WOMEN BY PRISON OFFICIALS AND INMATES EXIST, THE MENTAL CRUELTY PRISONERS HAVE TO ENDURE EXIST AND UNLESS YOU ARE RICH YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN ARE NOT IMMUNE TO THESE CONDITIONS. THE MOVE ORGANIZATION IS COMMITTED TO PUTTING AN END TO THESE CONDITIONS, NOT ONLY IN THE PRISONS BUT OUTSIDE THE PRISONS AS WELL." **LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!**

Speechless! That's how I was the first time I met Phil and Delbert Africa, two of the MOVE 9 four years ago. It was not just the first time visiting MOVE prisoners, but the first time I had been to a prison at all. It had been a long trip from Virginia.

I was excited and very nervous, not knowing what to expect. Despite everything I had heard about the strength of MOVE people, I was still expecting to meet desperate and hardened people. In my mind I could not comprehend how people locked down under horrible conditions could be any other way. After 21 years?... I couldn't imagine.

We arrived at the prison and it was just as I had expected - tall barbed wire fences, armed guards in towers and tension in the air. We waited to get into the visit for what seemed like hours. When I saw Phil and Delbert, all of my tension and nervousness disappeared. Calmness came over me and I felt like I had known them for years. Just being near them, I could feel the strength and health they generate. Being around them was an island of peace in a prison breeding war.

I was amazed and could not take my eyes off of them. After all these years (five years longer than my life), and they did not look much different than the pictures I had seen from the time of their arrest. They had aged, of course, but not in the way that most people age. Instead of being weaker and beaten down, they were visibly wiser and stronger.

The idea I had in my head of a prison visit was to go and encourage the prisoner, but what I experienced that day was quite the opposite. I was the one who left motivated by them in a way I can't really put into words. That day, I saw how the power

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need for small children to be close to their mother's, as nature dictates. MOVE encouraged John to visit his son but would not allow him to take the child. For four years, the courts sided with MOVE because John was not a fit father. In 2002, Judge Shelley Robbins New, through suspicious court maneuverings, granted John unsupervised visitation rights.

MOVE would not allow the courts to pretend they cared about children when all they do is tear apart families and hurt children inside of foster homes and in juvenile detention centers. As in the 1978 and 1985 confrontations, MOVE boarded up the windows of headquarters and waited inside, protecting their young. MOVE has always done anything to protect life, including going to jail or being bombed. Like a lioness with her cubs, MOVE fights for their children. Mothers everywhere were in awe of MOVE's strong stance in defense of their children.

When the unsupervised visiting date arrived John was mysteriously murdered, gang-land style, outside his home. It is MOVE's belief that the government either murdered John or staged the

murder to get out of a confrontation with MOVE. Regardless, the example is the same; despite everything this government has done to MOVE, they have stayed as consistent as the sun's rays. The belief and the actions are the same, and this is an impressive example entirely absent in the system.

When MOVE first surfaced in the 1970s as an above ground chapter, it appeared to be a group relatively small in numbers. The scope of their work and message is undeniable. Within 15 years, the group was known internationally. Despite numerous attempts, the government has never been able to shut down MOVE. There are now chapters of MOVE supporters nationwide as well as internationally. **JOHN AFRICA** teaches MOVE. "Revolution is as necessary as your next breath and just as urgent." With fists raised high, MOVE is stronger than ever, inside of prison and out. This system can do nothing to slow MOVE, because the power of LIFE is unstoppable. It's time for all of us to heed this example, to rise up and get on the MOVE!

Long Live JOHN AFRICA!

Thank you, **JOHN AFRICA**, for instilling this inspiring, powerful example to get rid of this rotten ass system once and for all!

FRIENDS of MOVE CONTACTS

Amherst, MA

Ben Gary
foamiest@yahoo.com

Antwerp, Belgium
Eefke Saris
eefkesaris@msi.com

Athens, ME

Carol & Mike
(207) 858-5842

Baltimore, MD

Sabrina Green
jahbless@verizon.net

Barcelona, Spain

Francesc Amáu
antianglada@hotmail.com

Bloomington, IN

Damian Hillman
heatminded34@hotmail.com

Boston, MA

Kazi Toure
ktoure@igc.org

Brooklyn, NY

Orinthal Lumumba
lumumba170@aol.com

Chester, PA

Tiffany Robbins
friendsofmove@aol.com

Clermont-Ferrand, France
Marina Rajewski
marina.move@hotmail.com

Czech Republic

Zeme Predevslm
zemepredevslm@ecn.cz

Detroit, MI

Abayomi Azikiwe
ac6123@wayne.edu

Ithaca, NY

Leslie & Jason
youth4mumia@hotmail.com

Ivory Coast, Africa

Sylla Mangbe
syllamangbe@hotmail.com

Long Beach, CA

Kristin Reid
kristinreid@hotmail.com

Louisville, KY

Tahiti Castillo
fombuisville@thetalkingdrum.com

Milan, Italy

Giuseppe Pipitone
u_net@libero.it

Montreal-Quebec, Canada

Jamie McGowan
solidarity@tao.ca

Norfolk, VA

David Nason
vafom@aol.com

North Jersey, NJ

Chris Gonzalez
newmorning@hotmail.com

South Jersey, NJ

Maiga or Kevin
sifriendsofmove@hotmail.com

Paris, France

Claude Guillaumaud
claude.guillaumaud@free.fr

Rochester, NY

Brad Dingman
freemove9@hotmail.com

Rome, Italy

Maria Juliano
mi0603@mlink.it

San Francisco, CA

Hydra Mendoza & Ricardo Alvarez
mendalvarez@aol.com

San Jose, CA

Donna Wallach
dbwall@earthlink.net

Santa Cruz, CA

George or Jim
stillebug@juno.com

Toronto-Ontario, Canada

Mookie Cherian
onamovetoronto@hotmail.com

Tours, France

Diapha Diallo-Gilbert
diaphadg@free.fr

United Kingdom

Luli Harvey
lharvey@waes.ac.uk

Washington, DC

Sybil Roberts
sybilroberts@aol.com

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this government beat, jailed, murdered MOVE people, Mumia, and other soldiers in this revolution for fighting for freedom. The South African government imprisoned Nelson Mandela because of his beliefs, because of his refusal to accept the legal injustice of the apartheid government, not because he was a criminal. The U.S. government imprisoned, executed, tries to exterminate MOVE and other freedom fighters because of our belief, because of our refusal to accept the legal injustice of this government, not because we're criminals. South African officials tried to coerce, intimidate, and pressure Nelson Mandela into denouncing his

"Anybody who truly opposes racism, oppression, and persecution, opposes it wherever it's happening."

belief and dissociating himself from the African National Congress in exchange for his release from prison, but Mandela refused. The U.S. government is trying to coerce, intimidate, and pressure MOVE people to dissociate from **JOHN AFRICA'S** MOVE Organization, denouncing our belief and giving up on the fight for freedom, justice for all LIFE, but committed MOVE people never denounce **JOHN AFRICA'S** revolution, because to abandon what is proven right is to be wrong.

Nelson Mandela became a rallying symbol for people worldwide, he gained worldwide respect, even from his captors because he would not compromise his belief. U.S. officials applauded the release of Nelson Mandela. They see the position he and the A.N.C. took against the apartheid government as justified, right even though it was illegal. Meanwhile, right here in the U.S. these same officials are doing the exact same thing to MOVE and other political prisoners as they condemned apartheid officials for doing to Nelson Mandela, and most importantly U.S. officials ain't took one step toward releasing the MOVE 9. In fact, when our MOVE family simply demanded an investigation into the ongoing imprisonment of the MOVE 9, U.S. officials bombed, and burned innocent MOVE babies, women, men to death.

While there is nothing wrong with officials or anybody else applauding the release of Nelson Mandela from prison, it is very schizophrenic to condemn the apartheid government of South Africa for their crimes and ignore, allow, perpetuate the

same thing to be done to MOVE, Mumia, and other political prisoners right here in America.

The MOVE 9 have been held political prisoners in the U.S. prisons since 1978; (almost 26 years). Do we have to be in prison longer than Nelson Mandela before people realize the seriousness of the injustice in this government and do what's necessary to correct it. The people who supported Nelson Mandela supported what he stood for, uncompromising resistance of injustice despite legality, prison, official terrorism. That's the example being set by MOVE, Mumia, and other political prisoners in this country.

Anybody who truly opposes racism, oppression, and persecution, opposes it wherever it's happening.

People in this country helped to gain Mandela's release, which is good, but what these same people must understand is that what was done to Mandela in South Africa is being done right here in America to MOVE, Mumia, and hundreds of other political prisoners. Just because it's being done by the U.S. government does not make it any less criminal than the apartheid government of South Africa.

JOHN AFRICA TEACH THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT TEACH LOVE WHILE MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR HATE, PEACE WHILE MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR WAR, FREEDOM WHILE MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR THE INCONSISTENT SHACKLES OF ENSLAVEMENT. TO MAKE CONCESSIONS WITH SLAVERY IS TO BE ENSLAVED, TO COMPROMISE WITH THE PERSON OF COMPROMISE IS TO BE AS THE PERSON YOU ARE COMPROMISING WITH. HATRED IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED, IT IS TO BE ABOLISHED, THE ENSLAVING PERSON OF WAR IS NOT TO BE CONCEDED, ACCEPTED, TEMPORARILY OBSCURED BY THE ILLUSION OF PEACE, IT MUST BE COMPLETELY CUT DOWN, DIRECTLY DONE AWAY WITH, TOTALLY DESTROYED THROUGH THE REALITY OF PEACE.

LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!

LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA'S REVOLUTION!

FREEDOM FOR ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

MOVE PRISONERS

and strength of MOVE Law goes far beyond words.

The visit lasted about three hours, although it felt like 10 minutes. They had every bit of my focus and attention as they put out information given to them by MOVE's Founder **JOHN AFRICA**. I was raised Catholic and have been to many masses and churches. Heard priests and preachers talk for days on end, but their words fell flat lacking a true example. Everything said by Phil and Delbert, I could see in them. We talked about everything from politics to marriage, and the sensitivity and understanding I-witnessed was unmatched.

"Being around them was an island of peace in a prison breeding war."

Many have heard of the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal and the MOVE 9, but few have first hand experienced the wisdom instilled in them by

JOHN AFRICA. JOHN AFRICA gave MOVE people the strength to turn the system's prisons, death rows, hell holes of solitary confinement into MOVE churches where the truth is preached and freedom is the example. MOVE prisoners counsel inmates, give information to guards and write to thousands beyond the prison walls. They provide clarity to solve everything from marriage problems to health problems and everything in between.

The fight being waged by MOVE prisoners has set example after example benefitting people inside prison and out. MOVE prisoners have spent years in the hole as a result of their refusal to have blood taken for testing. This type of experimentation is against MOVE's beliefs. But more than that, hundreds of prisoners have been killed from medical experimentation masqueraded as "simple tests," or been mutilated or infected through them.

MOVE prisoners have gone on unprecedented hunger strikes, some lasting more than a month, protesting bad prison conditions and other injustices.

In 2002, the MOVE women took a strong stand at SCI-Cambridge Springs against the pat searches in which male guards would regularly and randomly feel on the breasts and in between the legs of female inmates. All of this in a place where it is known those guards rape and sexually abuse the female

APRIL 24TH, 2004

**MASS DEMO AND MARCH
TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE
OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL!**

Philadelphia • San Francisco • WorldWide

In 1999, hundreds of thousands of people worldwide, from Philly to San Francisco to Paris, gathered in the streets to celebrate Mumia's birthday, to raise our voices to let this system know he is not forgotten.

We are now planning another massive action on Mumia's birthday. We need your help to make it even bigger. Contact the International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal office, so we can let you know about organizing in your area. If there isn't any, we can help you start it, or point you to another city that has it.

Philadelphia will have weekly meetings from now until the date every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., at the Friends Center, 1501 Cherry St.

**MUMIA'S LIFE IS IN DANGER!
ORGANIZE NOW!**

**International Concerned Family
and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal**
P.O. Box 19709
Philadelphia, PA 19143
(215) 476-8812
icffmaj@aol.com www.mumia.org

MERCHANDISE

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WRITE a MOVE PRISONER

The MOVE 9 have been locked down for 25 years. Mumia Abu-Jamal has spent over 21 years in prison. Write them letter, send them a card, draw them a picture, let them know they are not forgotten and we are still struggling to bring them home, where they belong.

Debbie Sims Africa

#006307

Janet Holloway Africa

#006308

Janine Phillips Africa

#006309

SCI-Cambridge Springs

451 Fullerton Ave.

Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238

Michael Davis Africa

#AM497

Charles Sims Africa

#AM4975

SCI-Graterford

PO Box 244

Graterford, PA 19426-0244

Edward Goodman Africa

#AM4974

301 Morea Rd.

Frackville, PA 17932

William Phillip Africa

#AM4984

Delbert Orr Africa

#AM4985

SCI-Dallas, Drawer K

1000 Follies Rd

Dallas, PA 18612-0286

Mumia Abu-Jamal

#AM8335

SCI-Greene

175 Progress Dr.

Waynesburg, PA 15370

EDDIE AFRICA'S

by Saleem @ SCI-Mahanoy

ON THE MOVE Brothers and Sisters!

I have never met **JOHN AFRICA**, nor have I had the chance to meet Debbie, Janet, Janine, Phil, Delbert, Charles or Mike; the only reason I know that they, with Eddie Africa, are the remaining eight members of the **MOVE 9** is because Eddie and I are housed on the same cell block in the same prison.

My lack of past knowledge concerning **JOHN AFRICA** and the MOVE family, and the fact that I am not a writer and have no clue as to what makes an article a good one, left me caught off guard when I was asked to write an article sharing how the examples of **JOHN AFRICA** and the MOVE Family have impacted me in my present situation.

My name is Saleem, and my story is no different than a thousand other stories that you have heard. In and out of jail; playing the streets; thinking money, women, cars, houses, and clothes were the solutions to all my problems. "If I had this or if I just had that!" yet no matter what I did or how much I had, I still couldn't eliminate the anxieties built up inside me. No matter how tough I thought I was, I still couldn't cope with the pressures of living day to day. No matter what I studied or how many college credit hours I stacked up, I still couldn't answer the same questions I face everyday.

Then one day, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections put my mean, irritable butt on a mountain somewhere in Pennsylvania, and I saw this brother who had locks just like mine—except he had a glow that all the darkness of the system couldn't diminish. That was four years ago, and today here I am (same prison, but because of **MOVE Law** a different mindset), understanding the need to do the work to fix in me what the system broke down, while also understanding the importance of contributing in any way toward one goal: **Revolution!** Hell, if it wasn't for **JOHN AFRICA'S** teachings, I would still associate the word "revolution" to mean war.

The first piece of information Eddie ever shared with me was so simple, yet every piece of information since has been based on that one single concept: "There is nothing more important than **LIFE**." Eddie went on in time to explain that when **LIFE** is the force that keeps you alive, you can't do enough to acknowledge that force. Eddie shared writings from **JOHN AFRICA** with me that said, "**LIFE** is more important than what people want to

schoolgirl but the seriousness of a lioness protecting her cubs. Janine has motherly concern and wisdom that is beyond words.

When I think of Debbie, I always remember the first time I met on the visiting room floor, giving her grandchildren "piggy back rides." Her playfulness and love for her family radiates from her, as does the seriousness of her belief.

When I saw Mumia, I was amazed at how he could explain the system to me with wisdom beyond intellectual thought. He spoke of **JOHN AFRICA'S** teachings and MOVE with such energy and freeness that for the first hour of the visit I did not even realize that his arms and legs were shackled.

MOVE prisoners are freer than any guard, official or so-called free person on the street. As **JOHN AFRICA** teaches, this whole system is a prison from cellblock to city block, from the warden to the street cop. The example that MOVE has set should always be kept on our minds as motivation. With all the obstacles they have faced, from years in isolation to having family members murdered when the government dropped a bomb on May 13, 1985, they have remained uncompromising and steadfast. We must not take these examples for granted! ° ° °

MOVE 9

MOVE 9 to 30 to 100 years each, completely ignoring legal sentencing guidelines. Malmel said, "They said they are a family, so I sentenced them as a family." When asked, "Who killed James Ramp?", on a radio program the day after sentencing the MOVE 9, Judge Malmel replied, "I haven't the faintest idea."

If all of this doesn't make the frame-up and railroad of the MOVE 9 crystal clear, understand that the Pennsylvania appellate courts stated in the police video tape of the events of August 8, 1978 that you can see a bullet come from MOVE HQ and strike policeman James Ramp. This is a ridiculous lie, because it is absolutely impossible to see a bullet travel from one position to another.

The MOVE 9 have been unjustly imprisoned for over 25 years. They never should have been imprisoned at all, but it is long past time for them to come home to their family where they belong. This will only happen through the will and action of the people. The people determine when MOVE comes home, not the courts. The courts operate by pressure, not justice, and the people must apply the necessary pressure to force the courts to release innocent MOVE people from prison.

life frees itself from slavery
like Harriet Tubman
(push)
life rises up against the system
like Lolita Lebron
(push)
Life sets a strong example
Like **JOHN AFRICA**
(push)
life is planted in the dirt
like a seed
(push)
and life is born
like a baby
PUSH
I push out new beginnings
A chance for a better world
Where trees and vines
Can flourish
Where children can safely
Dance and sing bomba in the streets
I push out a chance for
a new
A new
A new
L-I-F-E

A small baby
A small tree
Just begins to take in air
And cleanse it
The same air
That once created wind
That once created hurricanes
That still creates hurricanes
That can tear down
Even the tallest building in babylon
Now flows through the
This new
Life
With the spirit of
goodness and righteousness
that has flown in and out of life
since life was
life
life
life.

MOVE'S EUROPEAN SPEAKING TOUR

by Ramona Africa

On Nov. 6, 2003, MOVE supporter Fred Riley and I left for a European speaking tour that included France, Italy and Spain. We arrived in Paris on Friday morning Nov. 7, where members of The Friends of MOVE International Network in France were on hand at the Charles DeGaul airport to meet us and drive us to Tours, a city south of Paris. That evening we did our first program organized by "Just Justice," a group formed to assure justice for MOVE and Mumia.

Saturday night, we traveled to Paris, where we spent the night in the home of Mireille Mendes-France, the daughter of Frantz Fanon.

Fred and I left for Milan, Italy by train Sunday morning. We had an informal dinner with members of The Friends of MOVE International Network in Milan, and did our first program the next evening, Nov. 10. The program, held at a social center, was very well attended. Our Italian supporters also video-taped some statements from us that they intend to put on their website.

Tuesday, Nov. 11, we met with a professor that is doing in-depth research on urban America, focusing on the MOVE Organization.

We left for Barcelona Spain on the evening of Nov. 12, and arrived Thursday morning. We were met by MOVE supporters and taken to an apartment to rest up. We were driven to a town called Vic late that afternoon to meet with other supporters and members of The Friends of MOVE International Network in Spain, one of which is an attorney. We accompanied the attorney to the Department of Justice where he was filing a petition on behalf of West African immigrants who are being victimized by officials. Participating in a press conference before going in to the Department of Justice to file the petitions, we spoke about worldwide racism and oppression and the necessity to stop it.

The next stop was a program at the university in Vic. There was a short video presentation on MOVE, then we spoke to packed room. We spent the night near Vic and returned to Barcelona the next morning.

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EXAMPLE cont. from page 3

inmates. These stands by MOVE have benefited everyone in the prison.

It has been four years since I went to see Phil and Delbert. Since then, I have visited all MOVE prisoners numerous times. I have always wished to have known Merle Africa, who was killed in prison on March 13, 1998. Merle was a strong committed MOVE woman who must not be forgotten.

Every one of the MOVE prisoners has left me with a lasting impression: Phil with his deep laugh and light playfulness balanced with urgency and seriousness; Delbert with his calmness and confidence with sensitivity that matches his power; Chuck with a fire and force that can be felt across a room. The youngest of the MOVE 9, locked down when he was only 18, with all of Chuck's energy it feels as if he had never aged.

Mike was quiet at first and very attentive, paying close attention to everything around. He has a way of making you feel comfortable with few words. Eddie is huge, muscles and life pulsing through him like a river. His laughter echoes, and he calms you with honest simplicity. Janet has the energy of a

LEGAL UPDATE on

As of January 2004, The MOVE 9's case is on appeal to the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania state courts all denied MOVE's appeals, despite clear and obvious evidence of MOVE's innocence.

For example, Police Officer James Ramp was shot with one bullet in the back of the neck. The bullet traveled on a downward angle (indicating that someone behind and above him fired the fatal shot). Ramp was facing MOVE HQ outside on street level, while all MOVE members were in the basement of MOVE HQ, below street level and facing Ramp, making it physically impossible for a MOVE person to have killed James Ramp.

Then there is the deliberate, willful and criminal destruction of evidence (MOVE HQ, the scene of the crime, bulldozed shortly after) by government officials. For anyone but MOVE, that alone would have been legal grounds for dismissal of the case.

There is also testimony from several reporters that the first shots came from a house behind them, not from MOVE HQ.

Trial Judge Malmel, convicted nine MOVE people of a murder that he could not prove that any one of the nine committed, then sentenced the

EXAMPLE

see is important." I was given information that helped me see that the principle of LIFE is above all else, that life is not a priority; it is THE priority.

Through all the information from Eddie, it has helped me to clearly see what is important and what is not, what the system does to LIFE and why. And one thing is still the same after all these years: Eddie's glow. For a while, I just couldn't understand how, after so many years in prison, his glow toward LIFE could still be the same. As if reading my mind, he showed me writings taken from JOHN AFRICA about the Principles of Strength, of Work, of Family; then I understood.

**"When LIFE is the force
that keeps you alive, you
can't do enough
to acknowledge
that force."**

What did I understand? I understood that MOVE Law is right, but MOVE doesn't intimidate people into believing it. MOVE say they're right and invite people to prove otherwise.

JOHN AFRICA wrote: "THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DECEPTION AND NATURAL INSTINCT IS DECEPTION CAN BE PENETRATED, SHED, DISCARDED, AND WILL CRUMBLE WHEN FORCED TO BE CONSISTENT." In the same body of writings, THE COORDINATOR goes on to say, "WHEN YOU GOT A SPLINTER IN YOUR FINGER YOU DON'T REMOVE YOUR FINGER YOU REMOVE THE SPLINTER, CASTING THE SPLINTER FROM THE BODY AND LICKING THE FINGER THAT IS THE BODY. THE LIMBS OF THE MOVE SOLDIER ARE THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF THE MOVE SOLDIER, THE HEART OF THE MOVE SOLDIER IS THE FAMILY IN THE MOVE SOLDIER, THE EXAMPLE OF THE MOVE SOLDIER IS SET BY THE EXAMPLE OF THE COORDINATOR WHO COORDINATES FAMILY, SENSITIVITY, HEALTH, STRENGTH, AND ALL THAT IS NATURAL, NECESSARY AND URGENT!"

So I haven't met the man JOHN AFRICA or many of the other MOVE members; just goes to prove the Power of truth and the staying power the examples of JOHN AFRICA have had. What JOHN AFRICA gave to the MOVE Family so many years ago is still consistently being passed on to people like me.

The Power of Truth is Final!
Long Live JOHN AFRICA!

birth of yabisi

BY MOVE SUPPORTER AND
MOTHER TAINA DEL VALLE ASILI

It all starts out as
just a seed
A small resemblance
of life
Just the essence of existence
And innocence
Buried in the belly of MAMA

A seed
A fetus
Nurtured with the same water
That dinosaurs once drank
Blessed with the same water
That manatee once danced in
Around the island of boriken
Bathed in the same water
That once showered
Rainforest trees
That once covered the lands of
Puerto Rico
And Philadelphia
The water
That has flown in and out of life
Since life was life

A seedling
Planted in fertile ground
The same ground
With the same soil
That once the held
Casaba y yucca
That once provided nutrition
For Taino people
That once lived on and protected the land
With the soil
That has gone in and out of life
Since life was life

A small baby
Still womb encased
pulses history's blood
that once dripped from
the bodies of Puertorriquenos
who were forced onto tables
to be sterilized
the blood
that once dripped from the bodies
of warriors

(cont. on 7)

CONSISTENCY

by Maiga Milbourne

A group of strong, committed people stood in the sunshine, their fists in the air, protesting corporations callously polluting water. The sight of mainly deadlocked black folks, congregating at the water reservoir in Bala Cynwyd, a largely white suburb of Philadelphia, drew attention.

What's more impressive is that this scene could have been in 1996 when Ramona Africa and young MOVE members protested to expose the poisons put into water; or it could have occurred in the early 1970s when the first MOVE members advocated long before it was fashionable to fight for the environment.

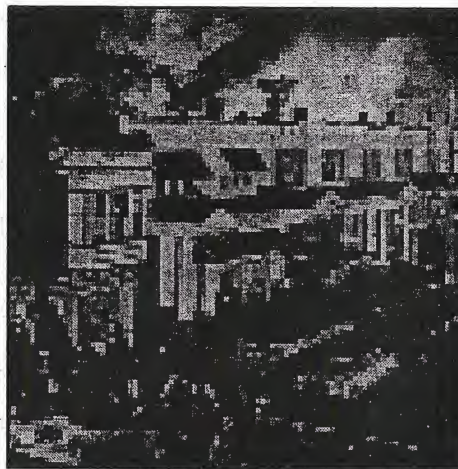
MOVE has earned respect internationally for the consistent commitment to LIFE. Over thirty odd years, the belief and actions of all MOVE members has remained steadfast. MOVE members were often criticized in 1970s for "smelling" of garlic and onions, which MOVE people have always eaten for health, with other raw foods. During the MOVE 9's 1978 trial court officials complained about the scent of garlic on MOVE members. Mike Africa recalls saying, "You wouldn't mind us smelling like cigarettes, which will kill us, but garlic, which makes us strong, offends you!"

In recent years "alternative medicine" has popularized eating garlic and onions and confirmed all claims MOVE made about their benefits. Still today you can smell the strong, healthy aroma of garlic on any person following **JOHN AFRICA'S** teachings.

People scoffed at MOVE's dedication to all animals and LIFE within their care. Over time, the steadfast, daily routine of running their dogs impressed MOVE's neighbors. Today, people emulate MOVE's example with animal care.

Diet and animal care marked MOVE as different before confrontations between MOVE and the government made MOVE known internationally. Demonstrations such as the one at the water reservoir, zoo and circus lead to MOVE people being arrested.

MOVE was such a perpetual thorn in the government's side that officials laid siege on MOVE headquarters in 1978. Six hundred cops attacked MOVE's home, resulting in the arrest of the MOVE 9, who remain imprisoned 26 years later. MOVE members could have been released years ago if they accepted the parole stipulations of not associating with any MOVE people. They're unable



to accept the illegal and unreasonable demand to not see their family. The prison's design is to weaken and break people, as well as political movements, but MOVE has not wavered.

Instead, supporters have come around MOVE members inside prison. Mumia Abu-Jamal is one of many powerful examples of MOVE's steadfast fight. On December 9, 1981 Mumia was shot and nearly killed. That night Pam Africa and other MOVE supporters were by his side and have effectively never left. MOVE has kept Mumia alive by steadfastly fighting for his freedom.

JOHN AFRICA coordinated Pam Africa to be Mumia's advocate and she has worked tirelessly since his arrest to bring him home. The government has terrorized anyone working on behalf of Mumia because his release would expose mountains of governmental corruption. Mumia supporters have lost their jobs, had their offices raided and their lives threatened. Countless groups have come and gone throughout the span of Mumia's imprisonment. MOVE is the sole support that has remained with Mumia from the time of his arrest.

Governmental terrorism has been so vicious that Pam Africa's own home was nearly burnt to the ground by a fire set next-door, but intended for her. MOVE has withstood this pressure and maintained the fight for Mumia, thereby saving him from two death warrants, solely due to the teachings of

JOHN AFRICA. **JOHN AFRICA** instilled in MOVE the ability to endure and persevere for what is right, no matter what this government sent their way.

In the early 1980s, the MOVE women were being attacked in prison by guards. A MOVE person

on the outside went on the radio to tell all MOVE people what was happening. The MOVE men responded in protection of their sisters, because MOVE's belief is in equality, and fighting for each other's safety. The men took over a prison cell at SCI-Holmesburg and refused to come out until the women were safe from attack. Prison guards from around the state were brought in to fight the men with fire hoses and billy clubs intending to kill them. MOVE, like in every situation, remained steadfast and prevailed. No charges were brought against the men and the attacks on the women stopped.

Unlike many, prison didn't frighten MOVE because imprisonment is not MOVE's belief--freedom is. Freedom exists despite whatever bars or walls an unjust system might create. MOVE again took an uncompromising stand in 1985 to bring the MOVE 9 out of prison and home to their family. This sadistic government dropped a bomb on the family. Babies and animals were burned alive or shot by police as they tried to escape. Ramona Africa, a survivor, was imprisoned for seven years for living through the bombing.

Many think that these stands have stopped since some MOVE members came home from prison in the early 1990s. As long as this system, and its insidious injustice exists, so will MOVE's fight. In 2002, the MOVE 9 women at SCI-Cambridge Springs spoke out against male guards patting down female inmates. The MOVE women refused to be pat searched by men. MOVE supporters internationally began calls of outrage.

A delegation from Barcelona, Spain, came to meet with prison officials in support of the MOVE women. When the pressure became too intense, the prison found a loophole allowing the women to be pat searched by female officers. This stand, like all, has protected women throughout the Pennsylvania prison system and set a precedent for all women's safety.

During the pat search conflict, a custody battle between Alberta Gilbride and former MOVE supporter John Gilbride came to a boiling point. John Gilbride, Alberta's former husband, had abandoned her and their six-month-old child in 1997. He resurfaced six months later, divorcing Alberta (which is in violation of MOVE's belief in marriage) and filing for custody of their son.

MOVE always protects children and protects the

who once fought
to protect our freedom
our lives
Los Macheteros
Pedro Albizu Campos
youth who protested in streets
massacred by police
streets that once ran with the blood
that has run in and out of life
since life was life

I am giving birth to
A miracle
(breath)
pushing him past genocide
(breath)
colonialist murderers
(breath)
system terrors
(breath)
that poison our water
that poison our soil
that poison our blood
(breath)
that kill manatee and rainforests
(breath)
that kill entire nations of people
(breath)
that kill our freedom fighters
(breath)
that kill life
that kill life
that kill life
(breath)
But life
It survives
(push)
it thrives
(push)
its tree roots crepe out gates
that try to enclose it
(push)
lifts up concrete
(push)
engulfs streets signs
(push)
its vines cover buildings like
a suffocating blanket
(push)
life escapes from prisons
like Assata Shakur
(push)

(cont. on 9)

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